Misrepresentation of LOC in Kashmir

*67. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI AKHILESH DAS:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has drawn to the Hammond Historical World Atlas (Vol. II) reportedly published by the American Atlas Maker Mesers Hammond in July this year showing the Line of Control in Kashmir as the permanent national border and the Indian side of Kashmir having been shown with rest of India in Pink-colour and the Pak-occupied Kashmir with Pakistan;

(b) whether Government consider it a violation of India's national integrity; and

(c) Government's reaponse and reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Wrong depiction of India's International boundary in publications is regarded as a violation of National integrity. Whenever wrong depiction of India's International boundary in a publication are brought to the attention of the Government, the matter is taken up with the publishers with a view to getting the inaccuracies rectified. In case of foreign country's involvement in wrong depiction of India's International boundary, matter is taken up with the concerned foreign government through India's Missions/ Posts abroad, for necessary rectification. In the instant case, our Embassy in Washington has taken up the matter with Hammond publishers.

Cultivation of Argemone

*68. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:
DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the steps taken to prevent the cultivation of argemone to check the spread of dropsy disease in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): Argemone Mexicana is a weed and is not cultivated in the country. It grows on waste lands as also in the Mustard fields. In the cropped area of Mustard, this weed can be removed manually.

Computerised trunk Telephone Exchanges in Gujarat

*69. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of computerised trunk telephone exchanges functioning in Gujarat;

(b) the number of such exchanges proposed to be started in the State during the current year; and

(c) the details of telephone exchanges expanded during 1997-98 and proposed to be expanded in the State during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Three.

(b) One.

(c) Details of telephone exchanges expanded during 1997-98 is as per statement-I (*See* below) and details of the telephone exchanges proposed to be expanded during 1998-99 is as per statement-II (*See* below).